

THIS NUMBER

comprises only reports of UFO sightings made in Finland. The majority of these sightings took place in 1969-70.

Matias Paatalo:

THE UFO INVASION CONTINUES AT PUDASJARVI

An article describing the UFO sightings at Syote, Sarkivaara, appeared in the fourth 1969 issue of VIMANA. Since then a number of reports of strange light phenomena and unknown objects have been received from this area. The intervals between the sightings have varied from weeks to a couple of days. Today it is more difficult to investigate these phenomena because rockets of the atmospheric research of ESRO (Espace rocket testing station) at Kiruna have originated visual sightings at Pudasjarvi.

However, it can be mentioned that many people in this district are aware of the tests performed at Kiruna, having observed them several times in the course of the years. Mr. Timo Laine, teacher of the Sarkela elementary school has observed these tests and noticed that they produce entirely different visual effects from those caused by the present UFO phenomena. First, in an expanding gas cloud appears a ball changing colours like the spectre of the sun. Next, the ball grows larger and fades so that the stars can be seen through the gas cloud. Such a sequence can last for minutes, and it is important to follow it to the end, in order to avoid erroneous statements.

According to information received, in the series of Pudasjarvi UFO phenomena only one sighting could be associated with the Kiruna tests. In addition to it, two other reports will be rejected, because the sighting was too vague. After October 1969 a new series of sightings commenced. Thanks to means of communication and witness accounts word of a great many sightings has spread among the people in the district. However, the investigation covered only the sightings at Sarkivaara which

created most interest and a number of parallel cases that occurred at the same time.

Without any further consideration it cannot be maintained that the psychological part solution based on UFO panic would be substantial in the whole series of sightings. It must frankly be admitted that the frequency of real UFO phenomena has been exceptionally high in this area. Nevertheless, a UFO invasion in a physical sense cannot be referred to.

UFO IN FRONT OF A CAR

On 13th December 1969, logger Heino Vaarala was driving his car in direction of Palevaara towards Sarakyla. Suddenly they (also his wife and her brother were in the car) discovered a bright light soaring high in the sky. It seemed to descend quickly downward in driving direction of the car. After Vaarala had driven another half a kilometer the strange light swooped directly in front of the car. It was necessary to put on the brakes immediately, in order to avoid that the peculiar column of light would have got under the car, or, according to witnesses' statement, to prevent the car getting underneath the light.

The time was around 18.45 - 19.00 in the evening. The actual existence of the thing becomes clear from the following:

The thing was like a shuttle- or cone-shaped flame shooting downward, approx. 1,5 meter long and about 0,5 meter wide. The height of the flame from the road surface was less than 1,5 meters. It began to sweep in front of the car at a 50 to 60 meter distance from the ground. The centre of the flying object was dark and its top "glowing" red. Moreover, a flame as if coming from a rocket motor in braking process was directed from the bottom towards the road. The speed of the car had to be reduced to 20 kilometres per hour, so as to prevent the car getting too near the object, because the passengers were fear-stricken but also curious.

Suddenly, a man walking on the road emerged in the front lights of the car. All three, the object, the car and the walker were keeping the same course. As the light was behind the walker, he was entirely unaware of the phenomenon. Before reaching the walker the object raised abruptly, flying in a curve to the left where it remained hidden by the forest. The object had, then, flown before the car

about 2,8 kilometres. Laine interviewed the witnesses, and the authenticity of the sighting cannot be contested. The measurements of radioactivity on the scene of the sighting did not reveal any abnormal radiation. .

Furthermore, a member of the UFO-club of Oulu, corporal Lauri Kurkela interviewed soldier Ahti Kouva who also was in the car. The latter's statement matched up with other reports.

Finally, it may be mentioned that the question is of a close-up sighting during the dark period of the year.

A PEAR-SHAPED COLUMN OF LIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY

The sightings at Pudasjarvi continue:

On January 8th, 1970, at noon, Mrs. Senni Rytinki was on the way to a neighbour. On reaching the highway she received the biggest shock of her life. When Mrs. Rytinki turned around to see whether there were cars on the highway driving from the south, she spotted a huge, pear-shaped column of light in the middle of the road reaching to the telephone poles. It was either touching the ground or slightly above it. The light was blinding bright, and everything turned black before Mrs. Rytinki's eyes. She returned swiftly to find other witnesses. Meanwhile "the bright pear" had moved to the roadside where the forest begins. Now Mrs. Rytinki's son Pertti also saw the impressive phenomenon. It was really weird because despite the daylight the phenomenon had no features pointing to an object. True, supposing such a bright light has something characteristic of an object, this would no doubt become camouflaged in its shining brightness. According to the interviewer, Mr. Atte Sarkela, the distance between the "light pear" and the nearest human dwelling was about 200 meters. When the witnesses stood closest to the phenomena, the distance was about 120-130 meters. It was 7-8 degrees below the freezing point. The weather was cloudy. The sighting lasted for more than five minutes.

AGAIN ON THE MOUNTAIN SARKIVAARA

On 28th January, 1970, an UFO was again sighted on the mountain Sarkivaara. The case is almost identical to the sighting of September 8th, 1969. At 01.40 Mr. Eetu

Sarkela, a worker, saw on the floor of his house a light reflection sparkling in a peculiar way. Mr. Sarkela got up to look out the window and detected a bright light ball on the mountaintop of Sarkipera. After the ball sparkled for a while, it remained stationary. Then, four small light balls flung off from the larger one. One of the small balls, the last to get loose, made a loop slightly farther away and returned close to the large ball, which, then, began to diminish and its brightness dimmed. After a while it departed into the east rising up and finally disappeared in a black cloud. An odd feature of the case was that the small balls vanished while descending towards the ground. Also Eetu Sarkela's brother Valdo saw the spectacle. Inspired by his personal UFO experiences Mr. Atte Sarkela together with Mr. Timo Laine, have interviewed quite a few people, and the eye-witnesses cannot be regarded as insane. On the evening of the night Mr. Eetu Sarkela's sighting occurred, i.e., 27th January at 18.30 P.M., Mr. Atte Sarkela detected a band of light on the top of the mountain Tunturivaara. Equipped with binoculars Mr. Sarkela climbed on the roof of the Sarkela school. But, the sky was heavily overcast, and the visibility poor. He therefore flashed signals with his flashlight toward the mountain. Then, he noticed that a red light suddenly flashed from the cloud reflecting on the slopes between Sarkipera and the mountain. The light remained there for a while, but Atte Sarkela stopped watching it, and went to bed. A few hours later, at 22.30, two ladies, Salme Ramstedt and Aune Valkonen beheld a large red ball over the Sarkipera mountain. The clouds had by the time already vanished, and the ball was moving to and fro heading upward. Late in the night about 10 minutes before Mr. Eetu Sarkela made his sighting, at 01.30, the janitor's dog in the Pudasjarvi hospital raised a loud racket and went on jumping on window sills using the claws. Also three other dog owners reported of a similar "dog hysteria".

A few days later, on the night of 31st January, youth returning home from a dance saw an odd light phenomenon at Parjantie crossing. - Their report has not been checked up, but the same night electricity was cut off at Sarakyla and Sarkivaara. It has not been possible to prove that this would have been caused by a UFO phenomenon, but in actual fact the dogs became "mad" also this time: one of them was so hysteric that its owner had to kill it.

LANDING OF A UFO

While farmer Kalle Lasala living at Pikkukyla of Naamagankyla, Pudasjarvi, on 28th November, 1969, was looking out the window in his home, he saw a bright light ball in the sky descending straight downward. He at once awoke his daughter, Aino Toivainen, who sighted the same light ball which emitted a broad, intense light beam shooting straight into the sky. The light beam gained in intensity the lower the ball descended. The sighting took place at 22.00 on the evening. The light ball landed behind a ridge. When the ball was lying on the ground or very close to it, broad light beams showed the landing site which was estimated to be at a distance of 3 to 4 kilometers from the spot of the sighting.

Later Mr. Timo Laine and a forestry technician, Mr. Aapo Ahvenjarvi went on skis to the landing site. Behind the ridge there are two woodland pools of which one lies in the right direction. Mr. Laine and Mr. Ahvenjarvi saw an ice-free spot in the middle of the pool. Mr. Laine was wondering at the even, circular form of the ice-free spot, but did not want to comment further on the subject. Previous to that date, no ice-free spots had been detected in the pool.

Conclusion

The writer would like to point out that the periodic sequence of the sightings of Pudasjarvi is probably unique in Finland, as also the mass appearance of UFOs and the concentration of the phenomena on areas containing ore.

Thirteen investigations by means of forms have been carried out as well as numerous interviews. Eight news items have appeared in the newspapers circulated all over the country and the same number of news in the local press.

CASE OF IMJARVI

As our readers may recall, in the first 1970 issue of VIMANA was published a newspaper clipping describing the peculiar light phenomenon occurred at Imjarvi belonging to the rural commune of Heinola. The sighting was made last January. Afterward one of the witnesses, Mr. Aarno Heinonen communicated with our association, and a group of four people visited Imjarvi to carry out investigations on the spot, with the following result:

On January 7th, at approx. 16.00 P.M., Mr. Aarno Heinonen, thirty-seven aged, and Mr. Esko Viljo, aged forty, were skiing, as was their custom. While ascending the slope of a hill they stopped for a moment's rest. The companions were chatting when Viljo sighted a bright streak of light coming at great speed from the south-east. Suddenly, the light stopped with a flash just above the companions. Without lifting his head Viljo saw an object above them. Heinonen, again, looked up, because he heard a whirring sound which was getting louder. It came directly towards the men. Heinonen caught sight of a large, light-grey object overhead about 4 to 5 metres from the earth. A slightly reddish mist smelling like sulphur dropped down from the object. The men could neither move nor talk. In the centre of the underpart of the object was a small tubular, gleaming circle. Heinonen said: "On the bottom of the device there was also something else, but it does not come to my mind." A light ball as large as a football came out of the tube. It descended on the snow between the companions, spreading out to form a one metre circle of the colour of fire, with a lighter centre, the colour darkening towards the edges which were surrounded by a one centimeter wide, dark circle. The light circle ejected 10 centimeter long sparks reaching as far as to 3 metres in all directions. The sparks changed in colours, first they were red, then green, and finally violet. The sparkling having lasted for three seconds, the light circle began to diminish from the edges, whereas its centre started to raise. Thus it had again become a ball which swiftly shot up disappearing into the tube from where it had come. The men stood there wrapped up in a reddish-grey mist. After the ball of light had hurled up into the air Heinonen eyed towards Viljo. But, the mist was so thick that he could not see his companion. A slit suddenly appeared in the mist, and the men saw an odd being hovering in the air about a metre above the ground. The alien being was like a dwarf, about 1 to 1,20 metre tall, who wore a green overall-type suit. Further he had a pointed, green cap on the head, and long, white gloves as well as boots of a darker green shade as the overall. The being was holding a black cameralike device with a white button. He looked at his camera as if he were taking a photo of the men. The creature could be seen very clearly, but only for a little while, after which it disappeared as also the mist so that Heinonen could again see his companion.

By then the object had also vanished. The men looked at the watch and noticed that it was 16.45 in the afternoon. For a moment the companions could not utter a

word, they just glanced at each other. Heinonen, then, begun to feel sick, and the part of his body that had been turned toward the light circle was burning hot, which sensation did not last, however, because after a while he felt chilly. It was hard for him to breath, and he could not speak properly. His back and joints were aching. Further, he felt as if his stomach would have been full of hot water, which made him to vomit convulsively. Esko Viljo's face had become swollen and brownish-red, apparently because he had faced the light circle, but he did not feel as bad as Heinonen. The men realized that they had to return at once home and visit a physician. Heinonen, with crooked back, could move only with difficulty. With great pain he managed to get home while Viljo went to seek a taxi. Then, they drove to the polyclinic of the Heinola hospital, where the physician "took a look" at Heinonen. "He did not look at all at Viljo, despite the latter's swollen and burnt face." The medical care consisted of two sleeping pills per capita. Since this incident Heinonen has been practically unable to work. Heinonen, a lumberer, is an enthusiastic sportsman. Last winter he could not work more than three days. For a couple of days following the incident his stomach could not stand any kind of food. Moreover, he had a hard headache, and especially in the morning he felt giddiness. At night he had nightmares about the object overhead. In the spring the symptoms diminished, but he has never been in as good form as before. Heinonen's mother related that when washing the clothes his son wore the day of the incident, she heard a hissing sound. The companions further disclosed that when they went to the sauna during the winter their skin began to get a brownish-red colour. Also this symptom has gradually disappeared. Heinonen and Viljo told that on the days following the incident they remembered very little of what they experienced, and "only with time everything cropped up".

Eero Viitala:

UFO - SIGHTING IN KEMI

related by policeman N.N.

The incident occurred in 1968 around the 20th November at Maksniemi near Kemi on the Kemi-Oulu highway. On the site of the sighting the road makes a slight sweep to the right, when coming from Kemi. On this stop, for about 200 metres, the old road

and the new highway run close to each other. Moreover, there is a crossroad, which begins from the old road and runs across the new highway, ending on the coast. At 20.45 in the evening I walked with my dog pushing a skeleton sleigh along the last-mentioned crossroad. About 15 metres from the new highway I stopped and grasped my dog of the collar, as I caught sight of a car in the curve coming from the direction of Kemi. While following the car driving in the curve I suddenly saw a light curving approximately in driving direction of the car heading abruptly across the road toward me. I believed it to be some sort of reflection. The light swept at a 45-degree angle at an altitude of 4 to 5 metres in front of me at great speed. It was completely soundless. When it was near enough I noticed that the phenomenon was an object around 5 metres in diameter shining a bright green and reddish light which lit up the country around. The thing darted directly toward me, and I was afraid of getting beneath it, so I stooped down on the side of the road. However, the object abruptly changed its course, rising with enormous speed at a 80-degree angle up into the sky. At the same time it emitted a sound like plunging of hot iron into water. All of a sudden it vanished from sight leaving bright tails like gas welding flames. I could not estimate the length of the flames. They were as strokes of lightning in the night skies. By the time my dog had disappeared yelling into the forest. A man, driver of the above mentioned car, came running to me. His first words were: "You are still here!" He also had seen the bright object and me standing in its light at the roadside. After having stopped his car he came out, and did see nothing but the skeleton sleigh on the road. He was scared because he thought that the bright object had taken me along. We both confessed that we had been badly frightened and decided not to speak to anyone of the incident because no one would have believed us.

AN EXPERIENCE FROM CHILDHOOD

Mrs N.N., who wishes to remain anonymous, related to the undersigned an experience that occurred in her childhood:

"In 1942, when I was nine years old, I had a strange experience. I lived at that time in the Niinisalo village of the parish of Kankaanpää. One day in July I was returning home after having taken the cows out to pasture. I walked along the railway, as usual. On the left side of the railway there was a road which, at a short distance,

crossed the railway. When I reached the spot where the distance between the road and the railway was about 10 metres, I saw an unknown woman walking toward me.

I estimated her age to be between forty and fifty. She was maybe 175 centimeter tall and wore a dark-blue promenade costume. The woman was bareheaded, her dark and bushy, slightly curly hair had been cut short. She had a narrow face and a straight nose. She was good looking, but not properly feminine. The woman was smiling all the time. Her whole being made an extremely friendly impression. She breathed reliability, willingness to help, and kindness. She seemed to be a highly advanced, a perfect personality. Therefore, I did not feel scared at all, when she took my hand. I felt as if she wanted me to come along.

During the incident I do not remember of having heard the slightest sound uttered by the persons I met. Nor do I recall my own voice.

So without hesitation I walked with the woman from the railway toward the nearby road. When we reached the road I saw two unknown men walking and dragging along a boy who was vigorously tugging and pulling. I knew the boy by sight. His home was lying about two kilometers away. By the time the boy was thirteen years old. The men were of normal stature, and slim. They wore pale blue shirts of a smooth material as well as slightly greenish trousers which were somewhat darker. The men were bare-headed, with light, short-cut hair. Apparently, their age was between thirty and thirty-five. They also made a friendly impression. The boy, whom they dragged, seemed to be very scared struggling with all his strength against his captors. The men took the boy to the left from the road, and the woman and I followed them. At a distance of about 10 metres from the road there was a small glade between the trees. When we reached the glade I spotted an odd device standing on three "legs". The device was aluminum-colored. In its side I saw a small opening, from which four or five steps descended to the ground. In my opinion the device was about two metre high and seven metre wide. The supporting legs were more than a metre high. The men lifted in the boy through the opening. I felt how the woman invited me to board the device. I climbed without hesitation the steps and entered the device through the opening, while the woman was following me. When stepping in I saw on the left side the boy crouched on the floor crying hysterically for fear. I turned back and noticed that the opening was closed. I did not understand, how it could happen, because I had not seen a door yet.

I was in a round room. On the left was a two metre high panel resembling an instrument board with scores of gauges and apparatus. I saw a table at the opposite wall. Five men were sitting at the table. They were clad in the same way as those who got the boy into the device. The men were discussing calmly and seriously. It seemed as if an important negotiation were going on. The woman introduced me to her companions who were friendly but did not attach much attention to me. Also it looked like as if they had forgotten the boy on the floor. I remember clearly the distress the boy was in. He was screaming loud at the top of his voice but no one seemed to care about it. On the wall of that part of the room where the men were sitting there was a row of windows. On entering the device I could not see windows on the wall provided with the porthole.

The woman led me to the instrument board and invited me to pull down the lever that was on the left edge of the instrument board. I lifted my hand up and succeeded in reaching the lever. I pulled it down and at the same time I felt how we started to fly at a dizzying speed. I heard the woman saying: "Now we are flying eastward toward the period of time in which Jesus was born". In the presence of this woman I felt safe. I did not have the slightest sensation of fear. I was bare-footed, so I could feel that the floor of the room was made of metal but the surface for passage was covered with a rubber-like material. I do not remember how I got to the smaller room behind the instrument board. It was possible to enter it through an aperture in the wall. The latter was about 2 by 2 metres. In this room there was no door either, or just a porthole. Further, I saw a window and behind it a table on which there was a pile of maps. I stood with the woman at the table, the edge of which was on the level of my chest. The woman was behind me showing me the maps, while the men were standing at the porthole looking at us.

The woman asked me, what I knew about Jesus, whether I had perhaps read something of Him at school. I replied that we use to read of Him at school. Then the woman explained that it is very important to come to know all that concerns Jesus, and that His words are true. The woman also affirmed that man is an eternal being. Although man in his physical form is perishable, he still continues to exist forever. While glancing over the maps she explained that in no place there are limits or end. She also said that time does not exist, and it is possible to travel forward and backward in time.

I do not remember at all the questions I asked, although our discussion at the map table turned into a dialogue. Regarding the answers, I can recall only those which the woman particularly stressed. At that stage I started becoming perturbed. The men standing at the porthole showed interest; apparently they were listening approvingly to the explanations furnished by the woman, and seemed to be surprised because I understood what the woman was talking. All the time I felt that the woman was in a commanding position, that she was "the captain of the craft". I became more and more upset by what I heard and after that point I do not remember anything of my ride in the mysterious device. Next, I noticed that I was lying on a field near the railway less than a half kilometer backward from the spot where I met the woman. I had stomachache and felt sick. I was so badly shaken that I do not remember how I managed to get home where my parents were worried because of my absence. I estimated that when I came home about two hours had elapsed since I met the woman. I did not know anything about the boy. For several weeks I was perturbed with aching stomach. I could practically eat nothing, so I lost much weight. As time passed, my eyes began to swell and also to become red and sensible to light. Even the eyeballs became red. After a month from the incident I was so ill that I was taken to a hospital. I could not see anything; my eyes were so sensitive and sore that I had to use blinders. In the hospital I was put through a thorough examination but no cause for my bad condition was found. However, with time I began to recover, after a month I left the hospital. I was away from the school the whole fall term.

A year's time I was very much afraid of the spot where the device had stood. Nor did I have courage enough to look at the sky above the railway. During many years the incident was entirely faded from my memory. Only after ten years or so had elapsed I could gradually recall everything to my mind. First, I remembered the explanations given by the woman, which had all the time been buried in the depths of my consciousness, although I did not remember the origin. I heard later that the boy who was at the same time in the device was so badly shaken that at the age of seventeen he was taken in an asylum.

Aili Nurmiaho